

Preparing for the Sale

Chapter 12



Ch 12 Sec 2 – Getting Ready to Sell

What You'll Learn

- Sources for developing product information
- Prospecting sources and methods
- How leads are developed
- Preparation for the sale in business-tobusiness selling and retail selling



The Preapproach

There are some steps that a salesperson follows when preparing to assist customers. The pre-approach is getting ready for the face-to-face encounter in a selling situation. A good salesperson has knowledge of the following:

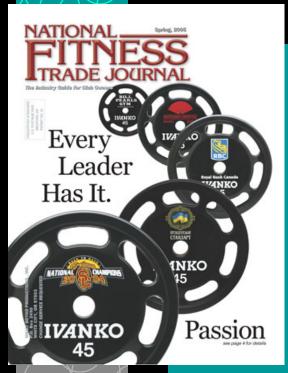


1. Product Information

- Direct experience
- Written publications
- Other people
- Formal training



2. Industry Trends



STANDARD &POOR'S

- Read related periodicals
- Trade journals
- Standard & Poor's a publication that provides data on industry trends.



- A prospect, or a lead, is a potential customer
- Prospecting is especially important in business-to-business selling situations.



Employer Leads

- Some firms employ entire telemarketing teams to generate leads
- Some rely entirely on their salespeople to find new customers





- Telephone directories
- Trade and professional directories







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Newspapers

- Birth announcements
- Reports of business mergers
- Commercial Lists
 - Salespeople can buy lists of potential customers
 - Email lists



Customer Referrals

 The names of other people who might buy a product.

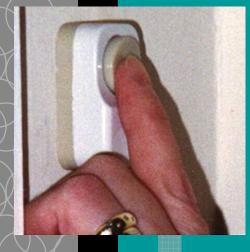
 Endless chain method – salespeople ask previous customers for names of potential

customers.

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- Cold Canvassing blind prospecting
 - Going door-to-door
 - Selecting names from the phone book at random







Preparing for the Sale in Business-to-Business Selling

- The preapproach activities vary depending on whether the sales call is with a previous customer or a new prospect
- Research to determine the customer's needs
- Set an appointment for a face-to-face meeting



Preparing for the Sale in Retail Selling



- Adjust price tickets
- Learn about stock and it's location
- Arrange displays
- Clean the floor, shelves, and selling area



Company Policies and Training



- Four-step method explanation, demonstration, trial, critique
- Compensation and Sales Quotas
 - Often compensated by commission (% of what is sold.)
 - Sales quotas are dollar or unit sales goals set for the sales staff to achieve in a specified period of time.
- Legal and Ethical Issues
 - No hard-sell tactics!
 - Must fully disclose the facts.